

EDITORIAL

Open Meetings bill passes Alabama legislature

Alabama Senator Zeb Little

It is amazing to listen to the opposing sides describe the actions of Republican Tom DeLay of Texas. Virtually every Democrat in Washington, some Republicans lawmakers and a bunch of editorial writers are calling for his head on the chopping block. That caused us to believe his official leadership roll was history. Then we happened to catch a TV talk "news" program during the weekend where a friendly lawmaker (pure Republican) was painting the guy as squeaky clean. With a straight face he was vowing that Tom DeLay was doing nothing wrong . . . all the trips paid for by companies wanting something from the government . . . had prior approval from the ethics folks. Family members on the payroll . . . all above board. The tune went on and on. Now we are wondering if the man might be in line for sainthood, rather than removal from his position of power.

Hickman Moving & Storage of Elba was recently honored for a job well done. There is an office somewhere which tracks the results of military families and their regular government sponsored moves across the country. These watchdogs said our Elba folks were the very best in the South last year and presented the management one of those fancy plaques to prove it. Of course around Elba we knew it all the time, but it is nice to know others have also recognized the true facts.

More and more "experts" are shaking their heads when asked if the Alabama Legislature will get their work done before the constitutional mandated date to adjourn. At this writing not even the major things, like budgets, have been passed. The lawmakers are locked down in debate over a bill that doesn't warrant such resistance. There is concern that some groups, such as Christian Coalition, raise political funds but don't disclose their sources as PACs are required to do. It goes much deeper than that, but you get the picture. The bill changing that and requiring disclosure, as presented, did more than it was intended in that department. What we don't understand is why in the world doesn't someone, the sponsor or a friend, make those corrections, vote the bill up or down, and let everyone move on with business . . . and life. Of course Christian Coalition folks have reacted as if the world is coming to an end if this bill passes and that in itself might be part of the problem. Most of us down here in the Bible Belt shy away from being publicly against anything which travels under the umbrella of "Church". If you think back, there has been a lot of hanky-panky which succeeded because of that open secret.

As we previously noted here, Elba native Bob Inman will be honored in Birmingham on Thursday (today) by the Alabama Library Association. The honor is for his book "Outstanding Fiction Award for 2004". Bob continues to add to the long list of accomplishments. Another hometown boy who "done good".

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Apr. 11, 2005, investigated the following incidents: three for burglary, one dog bite, one leaving the scene of an accident, one sexual harassment, one missing dog, two for criminal trespassing, three for criminal mischief, two for theft of property, one breaking and entering of a motor vehicle, one public intoxication, two for harassment, one recovered vehicle and one domestic violence.

The following arrests were made: one for public intoxication, one for burglary and one for failure to appear.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for speeding and one for attempting to elude.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

MONDAY, APR. 11 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to a trailer fire across from 2143 Hwy. 84 (5:16 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the trailer fire on Hwy. 84 (5:22 a.m.); River stage - 13:11 feet (7:00 a.m.); Burglary reported at Hawkins-Williams Park (8:02 a.m.); Burglary reported at the American Legion building on the Troy Hwy. (5:33 p.m.).

TUESDAY, APR. 12 - Routine activity.

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Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

It gave me great pleasure last month that the open meetings reform proposal I sponsored passed and became the first bill this session to be sent to the Governor for his signature. The fight to improve our open meetings law and increase our citizen's right to know what happens in government has been a long time coming.

For almost 100 years, the Alabama Press Association and many legislators have made numerous efforts to strengthen the open meetings law to better ensure openness in government. All of those efforts have failed because special interest groups have succeeded in blocking these efforts at every turn.

Letting the sun shine into the public arena is the key to building confidence and increasing accountability for state government. This piece of historic leg-

islation does that in many ways. This proposal helps elected officials, the public and the media by better defining a meeting, limiting the reasons a public body can go into executive session, requiring minutes be held of executive meetings and prohibiting secret or written ballots. In addition, the proposal establishes clear notice procedures for all public meetings, allows open taping of meetings by local citizens, defines what constitutes a quorum and allows the courts to invalidate actions taken in illegal meetings.

These are tough, new guidelines that will greatly improve the ability of taxpayers to know all the discussions and actions taken by their elected officials.

Passage of this law did not come easy, and there are many people and organizations that deserve credit for their support.

Time for a balanced budget

By: Senator Richard Shelby

Last month, the United States Senate approved the Federal Government's budget for fiscal year 2006. As we debated the details of the budget, the several trillion dollar deficit our country faces was foremost in my mind. Every year, Congress is faced with the challenge of determining how taxpayer dollars will be spent. The path of least resistance is always that of increased spending. But I believe that the long-term implications of increasing the deficit is far more dangerous than any spending cut.

A balanced budget amendment to the Constitution is the only certain mechanism to break the cycle of deficit spending and ensure that the Government does not continue to saddle our children and grandchildren with the current generation's debts.

Throughout my tenure in Congress, during good economic times and bad, I have devoted much time and attention to this idea.

A balanced budget would dramatically lower interest rates thereby saving money for anyone with a home mortgage, a student loan, a car loan, credit card debt, or any other interest rate sensitive payment responsibility. Simply by balancing its books, the Federal Government would put real money into the hands of hard working people. Moreover, if the Government's demand for capital is reduced, more money would be available for private sector use, which in turn, would generate substantial economic growth and create thousands of new jobs.

A balanced budget amendment to the Constitution can be the solution to this perpetual problem. This amendment will help ensure that taxpayers' money will no longer be wasted on interest payments.

Opponents of a balanced budget amendment treat it as if it is something extraordinary. They are right; a balanced Federal budget would be extraordinary.

Cities, counties, school boards, hospital boards and the Alabama Press Association supported the legislation. That is a coalition we never had before. This proposal enjoyed bipartisan support from the leadership of the Alabama Senate, Alabama House, and Governor's office. That is historic.

Alabama faces many challenges in the future. Our success in dealing with those challenges will be determined by our ability to put partisanship aside and work for the betterment of our state. Success will also be determined by our ability to have strong support from the public. That strong support cannot happen without greater public trust in the operation of state government.

That is why our success in passing this proposal into law is so important. Open access is one key to improving public trust in government. The more the taxpayers are allowed to know about the problems, we face, the decisions we are making, the choices we have and the results from those choices, the more involved and supportive they will be.

As I asked at one public hearing on this bill, "Will this new open meetings proposal totally change Alabama and right all of our wrongs - of course not." It will, however, begin to build a level of trust and accountability that is essential for any future reform of our state government that involves our budgets.

As we focus on openness in government and increased access for the public, I want to thank all of those who supported this significant reform. From the leadership of the Senate and House to the Governor's office to all the members of the Alabama Legislature, this proposal could not have become reality so quickly in this session without broad, bi-partisan support.

Finally, governmental bodies have clear guidelines on how public meetings can and should

be held. That is good for government and good for the people of Alabama.

Zeb Little is a member of the Alabama State Senate. He represents all or part of Cullman, Lawrence and Winston Counties.

BULLETIN BOARD

• **ARISING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES THROUGH CHRISTIANITY** - Thurs. 7 p.m. - Ino Baptist Church, Call 565-3970 or visit the website: www.inobaptist.com

• **ALCOHOL & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church of Elba - Call 897-5037 for more information

• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** - Courtroom 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30, Call FREE 1-800-772-1213

• **ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesday @ Noon - First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall

• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall

• **WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6 p.m. - City Hall

• **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

• **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday 6:30 p.m. - Elba United Methodist Church - enter on side on W. Davis St. - Maggie Garrett Classroom

• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION** - 2nd & 4th Monday - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton

• **LIONS CLUB** - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. - Senior Citizen Center

• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 2nd Tues. - 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office

• **AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st Tuesday of every month 7:00 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

• **MASSONIC LODGE 170** - 1st & 3rd Monday of each month, 7 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. - Senior Citizen Center

• **BAND BOOSTERS** - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elba High School

• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER** - Mon-Fri 8:12 noon & 12:30 - 4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 897-5855

• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** - 3rd Sat. - 3 p.m. - Club House

• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 3rd Wed. Noon - Colony Inn, Enterprise

• **ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 2nd Thursday at noon, Driscoll Hangar at the Airport

• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month

• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - 1st & 3rd Monday - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room

• **NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB** - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

This space made possible by:
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FARM

(Continued from Page One)

through the Laura's Lean beef program," he said. "It's a group based in Lexington, Ky., and their advertising philosophy is that their beef is raised with no growth additives of any kind and no antibiotics. It's just pure lean beef. We've been selling with this same group for about seven or eight years, and we've got a good working relationship with them. Their up-front money is real good, plus they have bonus money for yield grade and dressing percentage and ribeye area. So, it's been a real good marketing tool for us."

The success of the Wises' diversified farming operation has provided them other opportunities as well. James' son, Allen, now owns John Deere dealerships in Samson and Andalusia, and recently the elder Wise has lent his leadership abilities to a statewide effort to rid Alabama of Tropical Soda Apple, a costly and destructive invasive plant species.

The Farm of Distinction finalists are judged on their management, conservation and environmental practices as well as the overall aesthetic appearance of the farm and leadership of the farm owner. Alabama's Farm of

Distinction will receive a John Deere Gator GX valued at \$5,200 that has been donated by Wire Road Tractor in Auburn, Lawn & Leisure in Montgomery and Henry Farm Center with stores in Abbeville, Brundidge and Dothan. In addition, the Alabama Farmers Cooperative will present a \$1,000 gift certificate to the state winner, redeemable at any of its member Quality Co-op stores.

The Alabama Farmers Federation and Alfa Health will award the Farm of Distinction an engraved, mahogany farm sign. The Alabama winner also will receive a \$2,500 cash award and an expense-paid trip to the Sunbelt Agricultural Expo. The state winner will represent Alabama at the Sunbelt Agricultural Expo Oct. 18-20 in the Southeastern Farmer of the Year competition in Moultrie, Ga. The Sunbelt winner will receive \$14,000 plus several additional prizes.

The Farm-City Committee of Alabama presents the Farm of Distinction Award annually. Farm-City Week is observed nationally each year the week before Thanksgiving as a way to help bridge the gap between rural and urban residents.

EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS
WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Note Of Thanks

The family of YERBA G. HUDSON wishes to express our gratitude to everyone for the many acts of love and concern extended to us during her illness and death.

You warmed our hearts and humbled us with all the beautiful cards, food, flowers, donations to Wilgrass Hospice, phone calls and other acts of kindness.

Miriam and Grady Farris
Jo Ann and Hugh Parker

FOCUSED
ON
FACTS

LIGHTING A CANDLE

Today we must understand that the Nazi murderers have let us live only because they want to make use of our capacity to work to our last drop of blood and sweat, to our last breath. We are slaves. And when the slaves are no longer profitable, they are killed. Every one among us must understand that, and every one among us must remember it always.

Underground Jewish Publication

Warsaw Ghetto, Poland

January 1943

After Nazi Germany conquered Poland in September 1939, the activities of Jewish Poles were severely restricted. Jews could not own radios, telephones, or bakeries. They could not go to travel by train, or mail letters abroad; and they were required to step off the sidewalks to allow Germans to pass.

Then, in November 1940, the Nazis created the Warsaw Ghetto and forced every Jew in Warsaw to move there. After confining all the Jews in the ghetto, the Nazis confiscated their homes, emptied their bank accounts, and stole their personal property. Then, they began starving them.

By early 1943, fewer than 60,000 Jews remained alive. The rest had either died or been sent to concentration camps at Treblinka.

Auschwitz, and elsewhere. Those left knew they would also die. The only question was: When and how would they meet their death?

For generations upon generations passivity and lack of faith in our own strength had pressed upon us; but our history also shows beautiful pages glowing with heroism and struggle. It is our duty to join this period of heroism.

Underground Jewish newspaper

Warsaw Ghetto, Warsaw, Poland

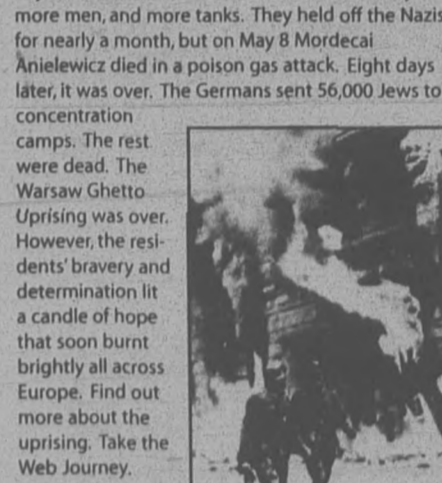
March 28, 1943

Mordecai Anielewicz was a young ghetto resident and youth group leader. In the summer of 1942, he joined other young people to form a Jewish Fighting Organization called ZOB that they planned to defend the ghetto against the Nazis.

Mordecai became their leader in November 1942, when their arsenal consisted of a single pistol.

Mordecai bought weapons from the Polish Underground, and by early April ZOB had 500 pistols, some rifles, and some machine guns.

On April 19, 1943, German storm troops entered the Warsaw Ghetto at 6:00 AM, backed by armored personnel carriers and tanks. As they marched down the street, ZOB fighters rained bullets down from windows and rooftops. Molotov

IT HAPPENED
THIS WEEK!

The author, through Columbia University News.

and others. Who is he? Do you need to find the answer, or want to find out more about him?

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/7kuk>

Next week: "Armenian Tears"

The ghetto burning, through the National Archives and Records Administration.

The Warsaw Ghetto, 1943

THE WEB JOURNEY

The Warsaw Ghetto

The American Israeli Cooperative Enterprise created this resource. It is a collection of primary documents by ghetto residents and German military authorities. Included are military reports on the uprising, German directives issued between 1939 and 1943, letters, diary entries by residents, and other material.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/crc9u>

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/d8t6e>

Warsaw Ghetto Uprising

This exhibit is part of the online resources offered by the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Included are original photographs, a history of the ghetto, interviews with survivors, and other material.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/crc9u>

Yad Vashem Archives

This resource offers a collection of diary entries by ghetto residents Emanuel Ringelblum, Hersh Berelinski, and the final letter written by the leader of the uprising Anielewicz on April 23, 1943.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/7ohxg>

Obituaries

KRISTAL N. EDWARDS

Miss Kristal N. Edwards, age 15, of Elba, Ala., died Saturday, March 19, 2005.

Funeral services were held March 23, 2005 at Greater New Zion Baptist Church of Elba with Rev. W. L. Peterson officiating. Burial followed with Coleman Funeral Home of Elba directing.

Miss Edwards was preceded in death by her grandparents, Paikie Ola Shipman and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Parks.

Survivors include her mother, Mary (Leroy) Barnes, Elba; her father, Johnny (Mary) Shipman, Opelika, Ala.; a grandfather, Will Shipman, Troy, Ala.; four brothers: Johnny Edwards, Elba, Eric (Latisha) Culver, Atlanta, Ga.; Leroy Virgins Jr., and Marcus Virgins, Chicago, Ill.; and one sister: April Virgins, Chicago.

PATRICIA FAYE CHIRICO

Mrs. Patricia Faye (Pat) Chirico, age 63, of Jack, Ala., died Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at her residence in Jack.

Funeral services were held April 15, 2005 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Mack King and Father Eamon Miley officiating. Burial followed in the St. Johns Cemetery, Tarentum, Ala., with Hayes Funeral Home directing. A Mass of Remembrance at St. Martin of Tours, Troy, Ala., will be announced at a later date.

SURVIVORS INCLUDE HER HUSBAND, FRANCIS MICHAEL CHIRICO

Survivors include her husband, Francis Michael Chirico Sr., Jack; one daughter: Francene (husband, Salvatore) Frenda, Enterprise, Ala.; one son: Francis Michael (wife, Jacque) Chirico, Brundidge, Ala.; a sister: Delores Davis, Mt. Pleasant, S.C.; and five grandchildren.

RUSHA BLANTON

Mrs. Rusha (Smith) Blanton, age 82, of Elba, Ala., died Thursday, April 14, 2005 at the Elba Nursing Home.

Funeral services were April 16, 2005 at Mt. Zion Baptist Church with Rev. Hubert McWaters officiating. Burial followed in the Mixon Crossroads Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home of Elba directing. The family request memorial contributions be made to the Elba Nursing Home c/o Activities Department, 987 Drayton Avenue, Elba, Alabama 36323.

Survivors include two daughters: Shirley B. (husband, Roger) Goodson, New Brockton, Ala.; Susan B. (husband, Roger) Allen, Salem, Ala.; two step daughters: Camellia Hayes, Afford, Fla.; Lena (husband, Dennis) Walker, Bentonville, AR; three sisters: Vera Melvin, Jennie Hussey and Lovia Brooks, all of Elba; seven grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

FANNIE MAE DAVIS BLAIR

Mrs. Fannie Mae Davis Blair, age 84, died April 10, 2005 in the Enterprise Nursing Home, Enterprise, Ala.

Funeral services were held April 12, 2005, at Wyatt Funeral Home in Opp with Rev. Johnathon Maddox, Rev. Bob Hataway and Rev. Robert Davis officiating. Burial followed in the Friendship Baptist Church Cemetery (Holley Store Community) with Wyatt Funeral Home directing.

She was preceded in death by her sister, Lilliar Kendrick, and brothers, Rev. Q.P. Davis, Clemon E. Davis and Enmett Davis.

Survivors include four daughters: Katreen (husband, Freddie) Owens, Margaret (husband, Billy) Hataway, Brenda (husband, Ron) Martin, all of Elba; Linda Forward, Enterprise; two sisters: Lillian Gray, Annie Lou Cooper, nine grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

SHELLY THOMPSON SR.

Shelly Thompson Sr. died Friday, April 8, 2005.

Funeral services were held April 14, 2005 at New Bethel A.M.E. Church in Florala Ala., with Pastor J.F. McCleod officiating and Hammond Funeral Home directing.

He was preceded in death by

four brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include his wife: Sara Rene Richburg Thompson; five daughters and three sons: Vivian, Smyra, Ga.; Barbara Ann, San Jose, Calif.; Deborah, Crestview, Fla.; Vanessa, Miami, Fla.; Jennifer (Chance), Smyra, Ga.; Shelly Jr. (Julie), Aurora, Colo.; Bruce (Charlene), Northport, Ala.; and Andre, Dallas, Ga.; one sister: Addie Miller, Mobile, Ala.; two sisters-in-law: Gladys Thompson, Dothan, Ala.; Lillie Mae Thompson, Florala, Ala.; 20 grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren.

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Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home for details Call 897-2225

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E-mail your questions or comments to editor@elbaclipper.com

Elba Clipper

in Education



CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Brewton District Conference 2005 being held at Harris Temple

The "Brewton District Conference 2005" is in progress this week at Harris Temple Church of God in Christ in Elba. The conference began Monday, April 18, and will conclude Friday, April 22. The services begin at 7:30 p.m. nightly.

The conference speakers have and will include: Superintendent Joe Mack Bankhead, Monday night; Superintendent John Grayson, Tuesday night; Superintendent Terrance Ellison, Wednesday night; District Supervisor Gazelle Etheridge, Thursday night; and State Bishop Oscar Louis Meadows, Friday night.

The Peoples Bank of Coffee County opens branch in Enterprise

"We are open for business and excited about serving the people of Enterprise," said Doris Matthews, president of The Peoples Bank of Coffee County. The newest branch of TPBCC is located at 1110 North Boll Weevil Circle.

"The Enterprise branch is a full service bank that offers personal and commercial loans, mortgage origination, an investment brokerage and an insurance department," said Matthews. "We also have very competitive personal account options and business accounts with no analysis charges."

The Peoples Bank of Coffee County, organized in 1964, also has a branch in New Brockton, while the main office is located in Elba. Banking hours in Enterprise are 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. Friday.

"Being a locally owned and operated bank, we offer a very high level of customer service. We are looking forward to meeting the people of Enterprise and helping with their banking needs," said Matthews.

WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN	DAMASCUS BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.	Sunday School... 9:45 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.
ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH SAMSON, Ala.	DOKAS BAPTIST CHURCH
Richard Thern, Sr. Pastor	Pastor: Don Greenham
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.
ALBION BAPTIST CHURCH	ELBA BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Night Service... 7:00 p.m.
BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH	ELBA CHURCH OF GOD
Nathan Carroll, Pastor	Rev. David Tisdale
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH	ELBA CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY
Darrell Caldwell, Pastor	Rev. David Tisdale
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
BUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH	ELBA DELIVERANCE TABERNACLE
Ton Sene, Pastor	Rev. Stanley Carter
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH	ELBA JAIL ASSEMBLY OF GOD
Robert Davis, Pastor	Rev. Billy Reid
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
CHRISTIAN GROVE METHODIST CHURCH	ELBA JAIL BAPTIST CHURCH
Rev. Martha Brantley	Rev. Roger Miller
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Prayer Service... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST	ELBA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
E. H. Hill, Minister	Rev. Stanley Carter
Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.
Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.	Wed. Bible Study... 7:00 p.m.
COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH	ELBA JAIL BAPTIST CHURCH
Mart Gray, Pastor	Rev. Roger Miller
Bible Study... 9:00 a.m.	Sunday School... 10:00 a.m.
Fellowship... 9:45 a.m.	Morn. Worship... 11:00 a.m.
Wed. Night Youth Deal and Children's Activities... 6:00 p.m.	Even. Worship... 7:00 p.m.

PASTOR'S CORNER

Rev. Stanley Carter - Pastor Elba United Methodist Church

One of life's secrets, as I see it, is that if one reserves time to come to God, all the rest of life is place. A mental hospital developed an unusual test to determine when their patients were ready to go back into the world. They would bring the patient being considered for release into a room with a sink. When the patient entered the room a faucet over the sink was already on, the sink was overflowing, and water was pouring onto the floor. The patient was handed a mop and asked to clean up the mess. If the patient had enough sense to turn off the faucet before starting to mop up the water, the doctors concluded he was ready to go back into society. But if he started mopping with the water still running, more treatment was needed.

You and I need to stop mopping long enough to look up and see if the faucet is still running. We need to go to the root of our restless, confused lives. We have crowded out God and without God, life is simply a whirlwind of meaningless activity. We need to center our lives in Him and His purpose. Then we discover that life is filled with meaning. He offers an invitation to his banquet table. Will you take time to accept?

KINSTON HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

2004-05 3rd Quarter

A Honor Roll

GRADE 7
Lee Divine, Bethany Holley, Erika Rhodes, Kallie Rhodes, Amber Smith

GRADE 8
Wesley Hunko, Hollie Kilcrease, Eric Wise

GRADE 9
Shannon Chance, Courtney Pierce, Christine Whigham, Monica Wilford

GRADE 10
None

GRADE 11
Joshua Driver

GRADE 12
Brianna Hattaway, Brittany Holley

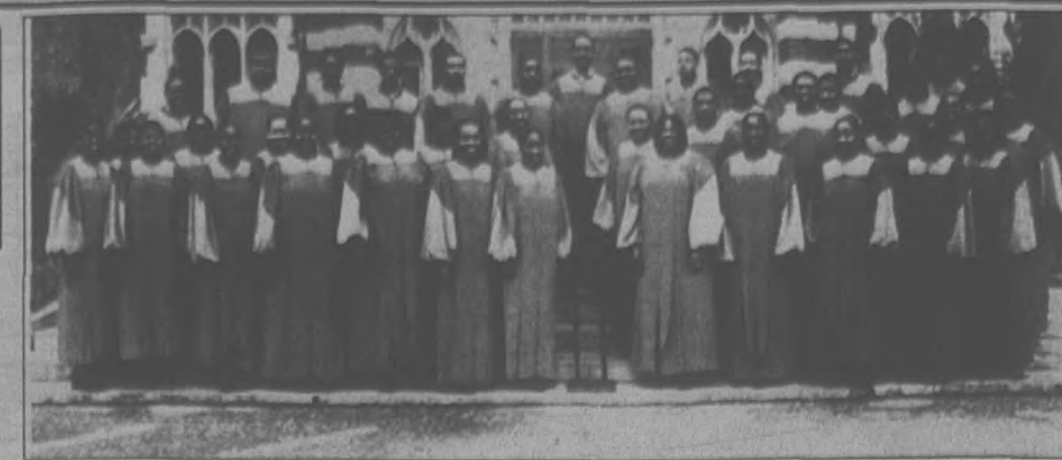
A/B Honor Roll

GRADE 7
Jake Blackmon, Kassandra Dean, Hannah Forhand, Amber Jacobs, Kiti Johnson, Kit Johnson, Courtney Parish, Erin Shaw

GRADE 8
Sallie Coale, Taylor Davis, Maegham Hawthorne, A. J. Johnson, Aik Kelley, Ashton Parker, Jessie Sessions, Lane Taylor, Nick Weeks, Tyler Wilson

Westview Baptist Church to celebrate homecoming May 1

Westview Baptist Church of Enterprise, Ala. will be holding a homecoming service on Sunday May 1st, 2005. Former Pastor, native of Elba, Dr. Paul Kendrick will be bringing the message. Kendrick is now serving as a mission director at Washington County (west Ala.). There will be special music. A fellowship meal will follow after service. Everyone is invited to attend.



George Washington Carver High School Choir to be in concert at St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church on April 30th

The St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church will present the George Washington Carver High School Choir and the African American Heritage Chorus (Carver High School Alumni Singers) of Montgomery, Alabama in concert on Saturday, April 30, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.

George Washington Carver High School has a rich musical heritage, which steps back to the schools inception in 1948.

Through the years, the choir has been recognized as one of Montgomery's premiere musical organization's. Critical Commentary often refers to the choir as the "Pride of Carver". The concert choir consistently earns superior ratings at choral festivals. Most recently, the choir toured Detroit, Michigan, and Chicago, Illinois receiving rave reviews for its outstanding performances. Currently, the choir is under the direction of Elba native, Henry Terry. Terry is a 1982 graduate of Elba High School. He holds an undergraduate and graduate degrees from Alabama State University and Auburn University, Montgomery.

A cordial invitation is extended to the public to attend this concert. There is no admission charge. For additional information, you may contact the church's office at (334)347-7743.

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

SCRIPTURE: ROMANS 12:1-17

***THINKING OF YOU, PRAYING FOR YOU: Randy Caldwell, Rev. E. Magwood, Annie Carpenter, Lizzie Tyson, Pearl Love, Eloise Caldwell, Rev. E. Freeman, The Tyson Family.

***APRIL BIRTHDAYS: Brenda Brooks - April 19, Jessie Whitfield - April 20, Kathryn Williams Cole - April 20, Ruby Simmons - April 22, Jonathan Edwards - April 24, Ron Hill - April 24.

***GOSPEL SINGING: There will be a Gospel Singing, Thursday, April 28, 2005 at 7 p.m. at Indian Hills Church of God, located Hwy 82 West, Prattville, Ala. The theme is "You'll Never Run out of the Word" featuring Herline and Singing News Magazine. For more information contact Tili at (334) 207-0253.

***ANNUAL WOMAN'S CONFERENCE: The annual nevertheless Woman's Conference will be held at Rocky Wood Baptist Church, located 3731 Highway 125, Elba, on April 23, 2005. At 9 a.m. brunch will be served and at 9:30 a.m. are the services.

Classes will be held available for all ages. Men's classes are also available.

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"Mama Cat" is the mother of 9 children, 40 grandchildren, 87 great-grandchildren, 27 great-great-grandchildren.

"Mama Cat" says "Thanks to my family and friends for helping me have such a wonderful time. But most of all, thank God for being so good to me."

***ANNUAL CHOR ANNIVERSARY: The annual Choir Anniversary at Bethlehem Baptist Church of Elba will be April 24, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. All choir, soloists, and other groups are invited to come.

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SPORTS

Views From....

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Melanie's tough season on the softball field got even worse over the weekend as she competed with tortannavt over in Dothan and left limping from both an old and a new injury. She played in only a few games early in the season before tearing a quad muscle and then sat out four weeks of action, but got back in the line-up two weeks ago and had just returned to full speed when she was called on to pitch Saturday afternoon and took a line drive off the leg and later had to leave the mound when her injured quad began to tighten up. With three weeks left on the schedule I just hope she can survive!

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

*** The Elba Tigers fell into third place in the area standings last week with a home loss to Geneva County, but kept their slim play-off hopes alive later in the week as Clark Skinner tossed a 3-hitter in a big 3-0 area win over Samson. The Tigers managed only four hits and committed four errors in the early week loss to area leader Geneva County, and had only five hits in the win against Samson. The difference in the two games was in the win the Tigers made only one error and bunched three of their hits in the sixth inning when they played all their runs. Elba still has one regular season game left on the schedule, and while it may miss the playoffs, the Tigers have kept things interesting and may actually have done better than many people thought they could. C'mon Tigers, go out in style!

*** The Elba Lady Tigers swept past two area opponents in regular season play last week to up their record to 10-7, but then lost all three games over the weekend in a tournament over in Dothan to slip to 10-10 with three weeks left on the schedule. Elba played well enough to win against New Brockton and Highland Home, despite not hitting the ball well as a team, while over in Dothan the Lady Tigers managed only 8 hits in three games and committed 15 errors that led to 19 unearned runs. After twenty games a team should be set and looking to peak as the playoffs draw near. However, from the bleachers it looks like the team is disheartened and in need of a big shot of confidence, in a hurry.

*** Last week was a big week for Zion Chapel's Josh Smith as he signed a baseball scholarship with Jeff Davis Community College and also was named as a winner in the annual Bryant-Jordan Awards. Smith's baseball skills will help pay his way to junior college, while the scholarship he received as one of the state's top student-athletes will also kick in and help Mom and Dad with their upcoming added expenses. There is no doubt this young man is one of the top student-athletes in the state and last week's rewards were well deserved.

*** I read an article last week about the salaries in Major League Baseball and it was amazing to see that the average pay for a pro baseball player was over \$2 million a year. The Yankees have the highest payroll at over \$205,000,000 which means they pay over \$1 million a game for the players to take the field. The average salary in New York is \$79 million per player. Atlanta is down the list slightly with a team payroll of over \$85 million, which averages out to \$3.4 million per player, while the Devil Rays come in at the bottom with a team payroll of just under \$30 million, for an average of just over \$1 million per man. The next time you watch a game and a player makes an error or strikes out, remember what is being paid. Maybe we should tell our bosses that they are getting a real bargain whether we have a good day or not.

*** In closing, it looks like an interesting couple of months ahead in the Elba High athletic program as at least one opening will surface for an assistant coach, with the possibility of two or three more openings. It is way too early to start naming names and mentioning potential replacements. However, it does look like some changes are on the way. Let's just hope they will be for the better.

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Skinner tosses 3-hit shut-out

Elba Tigers spank Samson 3-0

The Elba Tigers traveled to Samson Thursday afternoon and kept their state playoff hopes alive with a big 3-0 area win over the Samson Tigers.

Elba managed only two hits over the opening five innings, but did miss out on a chance to grab an early lead in the second inning when the Tigers' Adam Spicer was thrown out at third following a one-out single by Ryan Gibbs.

A lead-off double by sophomore Brad Sullivan ignited an Elba rally in the sixth inning that resulted in three runs and gave the Tigers all the runs they would need to claim the road win. A one-out rbi single by Marquize Tyson knocked in Sullivan and gave the Tigers a 1-0 lead, while Clark Skinner

followed with a single and Adam Spicer was hit by a pitch as the Tigers loaded the bases. Tyson raced home on a fielder's choice off the bat of Chase Boutwell to up the lead to 2-0, and Skinner later scored on a sacrifice fly by Ryan Gibbs as the Tigers hung a three-spot on the scoreboard in the top of the sixth and held on to post the 3-0 win.

Marquize Tyson and Ryan Gibbs both had 1 hit and knocked in 1 run to lead the Tigers at the plate, while Brad Sullivan added 1 hit and scored 1 run and LaRay Williams also added 1 hit. Clark Skinner got the win on the mound as he pitched seven innings and shut-out Samson on 3 hits and 2 hit batters, while striking out 13.

Tigers tamed by Bulldogs 8-1

The Elba Tigers saw their opportunity to move into a tie for first place in the area standings go by the board last Monday afternoon as the Geneva County Bulldogs came to town and left with an impressive 8-1 win.

Elba's Clark Skinner set the Bulldogs down in order in each of the opening two innings, but the Tigers missed out on a chance to grab an early lead in the bottom of the second when they left the bases loaded. A two-out single by Ryan Gibbs kept the inning alive and errors off the bats of Chase Boutwell and Aaron Harselton loaded the bases. However, a sharp grounder by Brad Sullivan was handled by the Bulldogs short stop and the Tigers left the bases loaded with the score knotted at 0-0.

Geneva County pushed across an unearned run in the top of the third to take a 1-0 lead, but watched as the Tigers threatened again in the bottom of the fourth, only to come away empty-handed. A one-out single by Ryan Gibbs gave the Tigers life, and Aaron Harselton reached on an error with two

outs to put Elba base-runners on second and third. However, an infield pop-out ended the inning as the Tigers entered the fifth still trailing 1-0.

Geneva County upped its lead to 2-0 in the fifth on two hits and a sacrifice bunt, then broke the game open in the top of the sixth as the Bulldogs combined two walks, two Elba errors, one hit batter and a three-run home-run to plate six runs and took command with an 8-0 lead.

The Tigers avoided the shut-out in the bottom of the sixth when Chase Boutwell led off with a double and later scored on a fielder's choice, but it was too little, too late as Elba suffered the 8-1 area loss at home. Ryan Gibbs had 2 hits to lead Elba at the plate, while Marquize Tyson and Chase Boutwell both added 1 hit. Clark Skinner pitched four innings and was saddled with the loss despite allowing only one run and one hit over the four innings. Steve Driggers pitched the final three innings and allowed seven runs (five earned runs) on three hits, two walks and two hit batters.

Sasser gets Vintage win at SAS

By Mark Chisum

The Vintage class had the spot light Saturday night at South Alabama Speedway and staged an outstanding show for the fans. After a great race on the track, the end result came down to a post-race protest. Long after the grandstands were empty, Todd Sasser was awarded the win after Phillip Anderson was disqualified.

Anderson took the lead on the green flag and led all 50 laps in the race, but the finish was in question until the end. Jason Windham was the first to challenge Anderson's spot, before Duane Bates took over the second spot on lap five. Windham and Bates swapped positions several times in the race, always staying on Anderson's bumper. Sasser moved into second on lap 19, and like Windham and Bates, put up a stern challenge for the top spot. Several times, Sasser was able to stick a nose under Anderson but was never able to get the grip coming off the turns to complete the pass.

The race went green from lap 3 until the end with the front five running nose to tail for most of the contest. Anderson led Sasser, Windham, Bates, and Kip Whitehead across the stripe to take an apparent hard-earned win. However, Anderson was protested and well after midnight was disqualified for a cam infraction. Sasser was awarded the win and everybody moved up a spot in the finishing order. Ted Shores moved into the fifth finishing spot.

In the Modified feature, Kevin Peel came from the fifth starting spot to take the win. Shannon Burns was the fastest qualifier and took the early lead. Scotty Anderson, driving a Jamie Art prepared car moved to the point on lap five. Peel followed Anderson past the fading Burns into second and took the lead five laps later. Anderson was able to keep Peel in sight, but was never able to mount another threat for the lead. Mike

Daniels finished third while Burns slipped back to fourth. After rounded out the top five.

Bill Brown was the winner of the Super Stock Feature, beating Jerry Weatherington, Ater, and Ron Joyner.

In the Street Stock Feature, Todd Valdez was in the right position when leader Scott Morse's engine went sour. Valdez had moved from the ninth starting spot up to second behind leader Morse before the caution waved on lap eleven. Morse enjoyed a comfortable lead at the time of the yellow, but the caution brought the field back together. One lap after the restart, Morse slowed on the back stretch and Valdez took over the lead. Valdez pulled away in the remaining laps to take his first career win. Mikie Walding was second followed by Jeff Rudd, Harold Hurt, and Chan Elliott.

Jason Singletary passed brother John on lap ten and went on to collect his fourth straight Roadrunner win. Jason Singletary came from the eighth spot and moved into second on the fifth lap. Billy Maxie followed Jason Singletary past of the remaining laps. John Singletary was third with Jimmie Hager fourth and David Culliford fifth.

In the Coyote Feature, brothers Max and Aaron Nelson battled for the win. Aaron led the first seven laps before Max got by and went on to take the win. Lloyd Shoof was third followed by Ben Baxley and Tim Wilkerson.

Action continues next Saturday night at South Alabama Speedway with heats and features for the local classes. For more information, contact the track at (334) 565-3539, or visit the track's web site at www.southalabamasppeedway.com/



Elba Tiger Clark Skinner pitched a 3-hitter and struck out 13 batters last week in a 3-0 area win over Samson. The Tigers will close out the regular season today (Thursday) with a home game against Samson, set to begin at 5:00.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

Recall announced for 2004-2005 Honda ATV's

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. (To access color photos of the recalled products, see CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.)

About 200,000 Honda 2004-2005 FourTrax All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) distributed by American Honda Motor Co., Inc., of Torrance, Calif. have been recalled because the steering rods can separate, causing the driver to lose steering control. This could cause the ATV to crash and pose a risk of serious injury or death.

YOUTH BASEBALL & SOFTBALL - IT IS WHERE THE ACTION IS!!

HIGH SCHOOL * BASEBALL * SOFTBALL * SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

* BASEBALL *

Samson at Elba (5:00)

* SOFTBALL *

Opp at Elba (4:00)
New Brockton at Arton (4:00)
Zion Chapel at Kinston (5:00)

MONDAY, APRIL 25

* BASEBALL *

Elba at Luverne (4:00)
Arton at Kinston (5:00)
Geneva County at New Brockton (4:30)

TUESDAY, APRIL 26

* SOFTBALL *

Elba at Opp (4:00)
New Brockton at Arton (4:00)
Kinston at Pleasant Home (5:00)

SPORTS

Grab key area wins

Lady Tigers sweep past New Brockton & Highland Home to improve record to 10-7

The Elba Lady Tigers hit the field twice last week in regular season softball action and upped their record to 10-7 with a sweep past area foes New Brockton 6-2 and Highland Home 4-1.

Following are highlights of both wins:

ELBA 6
N.B. 2

The Lady Tigers jumped out to an early 4-0 lead and never looked back to claim a 6-2 win over the New Brockton Lady Gamecocks, last Tuesday afternoon in New Brockton.

A lead-off single by Yoyo Reynolds and a walk to Ashley Carpenter put the Lady Tigers in business in the top of the first inning, and Elba grabbed an early 2-0 lead when both runners raced home on a two-run single off the bat of Stephanie Baxley. A walk to Teasha Lee followed by an rbi double by Whitney

Lawford upped Elba's lead to 3-0 in the top of the second, and the Lady Tigers' lead went to 4-0 two batters later when a Gamecock error off the bat of Ashley Carpenter enabled Lawford to trot home. Whitney Lawford singled and later scored on a fielder's choice in the top of the fourth as Elba extended its lead to 5-0. However, the Lady Gamecocks came to life at the plate in the bottom of the fifth and combined a walk and a double to plate two runs as they cut the Elba lead to 5-2 after five innings. The Lady Tigers added an insurance run in the top of the seventh on a triple by Ashley Carpenter and an rbi single by Stephanie Baxley and held on to post the 6-2 road win.

Stephanie Baxley had 2 hits and knocked in 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Whitney Lawford added 2 hits, scored 2 runs and knocked in 1 run.

Ashley Carpenter added 1 hit and scored 2 runs and Yoyo Reynolds also added 1 hit. Stephanie Baxley pitched seven innings to get the win and allowed two runs on two hits, three walks and one hit batter, while striking out 13.

ELBA 4
H.H. 1

The Lady Tigers pulled ahead early and pulled away late to down the Highland Home Lady Squadron 4-1, Thursday afternoon in Elba.

Highland Home combined a hit batter with a single in the top of the first to take an early 1-0 lead, only to see Elba rally in the half of the inning to plate two runs and move on top 2-1. A one-out single by Ashley Carpenter ignited the early Lady Tiger rally, while Melanie Mularz followed with an rbi single and later scored on a fielder's

choice off the bat of Stephanie Baxley. Elba managed only one hit over the next four innings and carried the slim 2-1 advantage into the bottom of the sixth, where the combination of Ashley Carpenter and Melanie Mularz again clicked and added two runs to the Lady Tiger lead. A one-out single by Carpenter started the two-run rally, while Mularz followed with a single and both runners came around to score when Stephanie Baxley delivered a single to right.

Ashley Carpenter and Melanie Mularz both had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Stephanie Baxley added 1 hit and collected 3 rbi's. Teasha Lee also added 1 hit for Elba. Stephanie Baxley got the win as she pitched seven innings and allowed one run on one hit and one hit batter, while striking out 15.

Amelia Rhoades inducted into Alabama High School Sport's Hall of Fame

A pioneer for girl's athletics, Amelia Rhoades was inducted into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame by the Alabama High School Athletic Association. She was inducted on Monday, March 28, 2005 at a ceremony in Montgomery at the Garrett Coliseum. Rhoades was selected into the Hall of Fame over 52 other nominees in the state. There were only 11 coaches statewide that were inducted this year.

"Precious moments and memories flashed through my mind the morning Dr. Washburn, AHSAA Executive Secretary called me," Rhoades said. "He congratulated me on my accomplishments and dedication to girl's sports in Alabama, especially in the small Class 1A school of Kinston." Rhoades stated, Mr. Washburn stated, "You will be inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame for your class and pride that you have exemplified throughout the state of Alabama in your career." "I was very touched."

The day of the ceremony finally arrived. Along with the other nominees and past members of the Hall of Fame, Mr. and Mrs. Rhoades attended the luncheon at the Embassy Suites in Montgomery. All the nominees were honored at a reception from 2-4 p.m. at the AHSAA building and viewed his or her plaque that will be placed in the state building. Next, came the press conference. Finally it was time for the ceremony to begin. All of the inductees were properly announced. All of the guests were welcomed, and dinner was served.

Following the dinner, the presentations of the awards began. Each inductee had his/her own slide show and a brief speech was given to tell each coach's story.

To end the night, Rhoades was shockingly surprised to see

a limousine waiting outside the Coliseum. She had no idea it was waiting for her. Little did she know, but twelve of her past volleyball players had rented a limousine. Everyone else knew, but Mrs. Rhoades had no clue of what was going on. She was escorted to the limo for this special occasion. "Let's look in it,"

Rhoades stepped in and saw her past players, and was overly astonished. She said, "You are all so awesome!!" "I have never ridden in a limousine before!" The big surprise was she got to ride all the way from Montgomery to Kinston with all of the volleyball players. They laughed, cried, made a toast, and reminisced about past memories. Each player said a special thought to Mrs. Rhoades and presented her with unique gifts. All of the girls presented her with a bouquet of flowers and a scrapbook they put together on the way up. "The night was so much fun, the limo ride with the girls was icing on the cake," stated Rhoades. "It is a night I will never forget."

Amelia Rhoades has been teaching from 35 years; she started at Kinston High School in 1969. She has been the Sponsor of the yearbook, K-Club, and Senior classes. Rhoades also took on duties such as Director of Homecoming, Cross, Proms, and Senior class musicals. Rhoades was also named the first female athletic director in

the state of Alabama in 1991. But what really stands out in Rhoades' long career is her coaching ability. She coached Kinston volleyball for 27 years at Kinston. Her first team began in 1972. There were only 6 girls on the team, which included: Patti Whigham, Sue Kelley, Wanda Bailey, Kay Hall, Diane Wambles, and Rhoades.

Rhoades has been married to her husband Harold for 38 years. They have one son Brice who works with his father on the farm. They also have two daughters Suzanne and Tiffany. They have both coaches at Samson Elementary School and have been named Samson High School's Volleyball coaches for the upcoming year. Amelia is the daughter of the late Royce Sessions and Claire Sessions of Samson and has two sisters, Annette Thompson and Anita Grimes. Mrs. Rhoades also has many previous players, who have chosen to be volleyball coaches. They include head coaches: Angie Grimes, Andalusia High; Janie Wiggins, Kinston High; Shasta Arnett, Zion Chapel; Lounger Wyrosdick and New Brockton High. Assistance coaches include: Davina Sutherland Casey, coach at Providence School. Players that have coached volleyball are: Cecilla Patterson, Kay Davis, Heatherly Gilbert Smith, Denise Ezzell Sanson, Leigh Patterson Martin, 1988 State Runner-up team member Angie Couson Grimes, Christie Carley Short, Jennifer Davis Tubbsville, Davina Sutherland Casey, Jackie Kilcrease Roberts and Angie, Alx Kelley; 1989 State Runner-up team member Suzanne Rhoades Elmore and 1997 State Championship team member and 1998 Class 2A State Runner-up member Tiffany Rhoades Johnson.

Rhoades, Class of 2005, Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame inductee. WHAT A RIDE! To learn more about the Alabama High School Sports

Association website at www.ahsaa.com.

Sharing in the special evening was: 1985 State Runner-up team member Heatherly Gilbert Smith; 1987 State Runner-up team member Kay Kelley; Denise Ezzell Sanson, Leigh Patterson Martin; 1988 State Runner-up team member Angie Couson Grimes, Christie Carley Short, Jennifer Davis Tubbsville, Davina Sutherland Casey, Jackie Kilcrease Roberts and Angie, Alx Kelley; 1989 State Runner-up team member Suzanne Rhoades Elmore and 1997 State Championship team member and 1998 Class 2A State Runner-up member Tiffany Rhoades Johnson.

She now teaches English all day instead of physical education. She has served as softball coach for four years and is the current volleyball coach. The Elba team earned the area championship in 2003 and 2004. In January 2005, Rhoades began a challenging new job as attendance supervisor and professional development coordinator for Elba City Schools.

Rhoades, Class of 2005, Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame inductee. WHAT A RIDE! To learn more about the Alabama High School Sports Association website at www.ahsaa.com.

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Elba Lady Tiger Krystan Parker watches the flight of the ball after a recent hit. The Lady Tigers saw their record move to 10-10 last week with a busy week of softball action.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

Lady Tigers suffer three losses at Spring Fling tournament

The Elba Lady Tigers traveled to Dothan last weekend to compete in the Buffalo Rock Spring Fling Softball Tournament and scored only one run in three games as they dropped three straight contests and watched as their record dipped to 10-10 on the season.

Following are highlights of the three tournament games:

WEWAHITCHKA 10
ELBA 0

The Lady Tigers opened play on Friday night and suffered a 10-0 loss to the Wevahitchka Lady Gators. The score was tied at 0-0 after one inning, but the Lady Gators combined five hits with one walk, one hit batter and six Elba errors to plate ten runs in the bottom of the second as they pulled out to a commanding 10-0 advantage. The Lady Tigers managed four base-runners in the five inning contest, but all four came on free passes as they failed to get a hit in the bottom of the fifth. Stephanie Baxley was saddled with the loss as she allowed ten runs (one earned run) on seven hits, two walks, one hit batter and seven Elba errors, while striking out six.

GENEVA CO. 5
ELBA 1

The Lady Tigers again struggled at the plate and in the field on Saturday morning as they lost to the Geneva County Lady Bulldogs 5-1. Elba banded out six hits over the opening three innings, but managed to score only one run as Whitney Lawford ripped a two-out double in the bottom of the second and later scored on an rbi single by Kristen Barnes. Geneva County combined an error with a key two-out single to pull even at 1-1 in the top of the fourth, then took advantage of a key two-out error in the fifth to sneak on top 2-1. The Lady Bulldogs added a lone run in the sixth and added two insurance runs in the seventh to pull away and post the 5-1 win. Whitney Lawford had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead Elba at the plate, while Yoyo Reynolds, Ashley Carpenter, Melanie Mularz, Brandy Caldwell and Kristen Barnes all added 1 hit. Stephanie Baxley was tagged with the loss as she allowed five runs (no earned runs) on ten hits and five Elba errors, while striking out 14.

ENTERPRISE JV 11
ELBA 0

The Lady Tigers closed out tourney action Saturday afternoon with an 11-0 loss to the Enterprise Lady Wildcat JV. Enterprise scored three runs in the opening inning on four hits to grab a quick 3-0 lead, upped its lead to 5-0 in the second and then broke the game open in the fourth with a six-run outburst that handed the Lady Cats the 11-0 win. Whitney Lawford had the only Elba hit in the loss, while Melanie Mularz was tagged with the loss as she allowed nine runs (four earned runs) on nine hits. Brandy Caldwell got the final two outs of the game and allowed two runs on four hits.

"What a Ride" taken by Coach Amelia Rhoades and several former players from Kinston

by Jackie Kilcrease Roberts

When Amelia Rhoades learned about her induction into the Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame, she was literally rendered speechless. Little did she know that moment would only be one of the many surprises coming her way.

As word spread of the upcoming induction ceremony to be held in Montgomery on March 28, a plan was hatched to make her night even more memorable. After several weeks of planning and scheming, a group of her former volleyball players and her two daughters had successfully and secretly arranged for an ultimate ending to a special day.

Although the small group arrived a few minutes late to the induction banquet, this proved to be of great benefit. Mrs. Rhoades had already taken her place backstage to be announced and seated at the head table with 10 other honorees. She had no idea that so many of her "girls" were in attendance.

dinner and was soon followed by recognizing the 2005 inductees. The ceremony drew to a close and guests made their way to the head table to congratulate their honorees. For half an hour Mrs. Rhoades hugged, laughed with and greeted her supporters and even signed a few programs.

She joked, "This is like being a celebrity." She had no idea how right she was. The crowd thinned and friends said their goodbyes as her family followed her out to go home.

As Mrs. Rhoades exited the Garrett Coliseum, her daughters drew her attention to a large limo parked near the entrance. The girls asked the driver if they could have a look inside. He obliged and opened the door. The girls guided their mother up the steps.

Still unsuspecting, Mrs. Rhoades climbed into the 16-passenger limo and was greeted by former players from her 1985, 1987, 1988 and 1989 volleyball teams. She was so surprised that she began to scream and quickly stepped out.

The ceremony began with

regained her composure and joined her players in the limo. Family and friends also boarded to take pictures and have a look inside. Another round of goodbyes was said and the limo pulled away and headed home.

Once on their way, the girls presented their coach with flowers, gifts and a scrapbook that had been assembled on the way to Montgomery that afternoon. For a final, surprise bottle of grape juice were pulled from an ice bucket along with blue Dixie cups. The grape juice tradition started years ago when some of the girls were playing in the state volleyball tournament.

The juice and Dixie cups were ready for a championship toast that never came. On this night, years later, the opportunity to toast a champion did come. With a plastic cup in hand, each of the girls offered a few words to Mrs. Rhoades and let her know how special she had been and continued to be to them.

Words of pride, dignity and class were offered up more than once. They raised their cups and finally made a championship toast to Amelia Sessions



Sharing in the special evening was: 1985 State Runner-up team member Heatherly Gilbert Smith; 1987 State Runner-up team member Kay Kelley; Denise Ezzell Sanson, Leigh Patterson Martin; 1988 State Runner-up team member Angie Couson Grimes, Christie Carley Short, Jennifer Davis Tubbsville, Davina Sutherland Casey, Jackie Kilcrease Roberts and Angie, Alx Kelley; 1989 State Runner-up team member Suzanne Rhoades Elmore and 1997 State Championship team member and 1998 Class 2A State Runner-up member Tiffany Rhoades Johnson.

Rhoades, Class of 2005, Alabama High School Sports Hall of Fame inductee. WHAT A RIDE! To learn more about the Alabama High School Sports Association website at www.ahsaa.com.

SPORTS

In Elba youth leagues

Action is non-stop in baseball and softball



OH WELL, IT'S JUST STRIKE ONE.... A batter in Coach-Pitch Baseball seems unconcerned after a swing and a miss in action last week at Hawkins-Williams Park.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation had another busy week of action in youth baseball and softball, including the opening week of action in Dixie Boys Baseball.

Following are last week's results:

Dixie Angels Softball...

Elba 8 Zion Chapel 2 - Elba pulled ahead early and pulled away late to ease past Zion Chapel 8-2. Elba owned a slim 2-1 lead after four innings, but scored six runs in the fifth to take command and held on to claim the win. Paris Person, Jawana Hooks and A.J. Whitfield all had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead Elba at the plate, while Megan Concannon, Ty Carpenter, Starla Freeman, Maggie Johnson and Mercedes Edwards all added 1 hit and Emily Hudson scored 2 runs. Morgan Mathews pitched all five innings for Elba and allowed two runs on two hits, while striking out 12 batters. Kelsey Sanders and Alex Ketchum both had 1 hit to lead Zion Chapel, while Lizzie Carney and Cheyenne Nelson both scored 1 run.

Dixie Ponytails Softball...

Blues 5 NB Cardinal 2 - The Blues led all the way to defeat the New Brockton Cardinal 5-2. The Blues scored 4 runs in the second inning to grab an early lead and held on late to claim the win. Lindsey Carney had 1 hit to lead Elba at the plate, while Caitlin Calhoun scored 2 runs and Kella Miller, Sidney Crittenden and Hannah Morgan all scored 1 run. Lindsey Carney pitched all five innings to get the win and allowed two runs on two hits, while striking out 14 batters. Chelsey Holloway had 1 hit and scored 2 runs to lead the Cardinal, while Lynn Kerigan added one hit.

Jammers 15 NB Gray 12 - The Jammers scored runs in bunches to outscore the New Brockton Gray 15-12. The Jammers scored seven runs in the second inning to grab the lead and held on to claim the wild 15-12 win. Bethany Wilson and Molly McGuire both scored 3 runs to lead the Blues, while Selina Dodd, Sarah Bane and Shabira Thomas all scored 2 runs. S. Cotter scored 3 runs for the Gray and A. Dunaway and K. Perdue both scored 2 runs.

Coach-Pitch Baseball...

Cubs 16 Giants 15 - The Cubs pulled away in their final at-bat to outscore the Giants 16-15. The Cubs trailed 6-5 after one inning and 14-12 after two at-bats, but rallied late to pull out the win. Stone Collins and Shawn Cotter both scored 3 runs to lead the Cubs, while Cavosena Stinson, Jordan Kidd, Harley Sanders and Denzell Thomas all scored 2 runs. Matthew Marler and Ty Stewart both scored 3 runs for the Giants and Nicholas Johnson and Michael Parrish scored 2 runs, apiece.

Dixie Minor Baseball...

Kinston 6 Reds 5 - Kinston pulled ahead early and held on late to down the Reds 6-5. The Reds trailed 6-1 after three innings, but rallied late and cut the lead to 6-5, only to fall one run short. Cory Lashley and Patrick Smith both had 1 hit to lead Kinston, while Kaleb Mace scored 2 runs and Brent Nobles, Lane Clark, Chris Kunkle and Clay Carney all scored 1 run. Austin Johnson had 1 hit and scored 2 runs to lead the Reds, while Harry Griffin added 1 hit and scored 1 run and Jon Ashley and Nathan Miller and Kyson Edwards all added 1 hit. Kobe Goosby and Aquante Jones scored 1 run, apiece.

Marlins 10 NB Gray 3 - The Marlins used a big second inning to grab the lead and rolled to a big 10-3 win over the New Brockton Gray. The Marlins trailed 3-1 after one inning, but scored 8 runs in the second to take a 9-3 lead and coasted to the win. Garrett Smith had 1 hit and scored 2 runs to lead the Marlins, while Hayes Spicer, Mason Davis and Ashton Senn all added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Logan Bailey and Justin Pope both added 1 hit. Scoring 1 run were Hayden Disotell, John Gray, Tyler Bobbit and Ward Brunson. Hunter Winters had 1



STAY ON THE BASE.... A member of the Giants, of the Coach-Pitch Baseball League, makes sure his foot stays on the base after catching a throw at first.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

hit to lead the Gray, while scoring 1 run were Aubrey Bryant, Boone Bryant and Nathan Credille.

NB Gray 10 ZC Gray 9 - The New Brockton Gray pushed across the winning run in their final at-bat to edge past the Zion Chapel Gray 10-9. New Brockton had rallied in the bottom of the third to take a 9-7 lead, but then had to score in the fourth to escape with the win. Stephens both added 2 hits and scored 1 run to lead New Brockton, while Hunter Winters, Nathan Credille, Jason Sasser and Whit Cotter all added 1 hit and scored 1 run and Aubrey Bryant, David Everhardt and B.J. Massey all scored 1 run. Dalton Sikes had 1 hit and scored 2 runs to lead Zion Chapel, while Aaron McCollough and Mickey Cox both added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Matt Winters scored 2 runs and Hunter Snow, Ethan Deal and Slade Nalley all scored 1 run.

Reds 14 ZC Gray 7 - The Reds scored runs in bunches to outscore the Zion Chapel Gray 14-7. The Reds played five runs in the bottom of the first to take an early 5-1 lead and rolled to the wild win. Austin Johnson and Harry Griffin both had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead the Reds, while Jon Ashley Amison added 1 hit and scored 2 runs and Aquante Jones added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Nathan Miller added 1 hit, Kobe Goosby scored 3 runs and both Justin Kidd and Nick Green scored 2 runs. Austin Johnson and Harry Griffin combined to pitch a no-hitter and scored 9 batters. Ethan Cotter, Fischer Crowell and Shelby Stephens all scored 2 runs for the Gray, while Bo Collins scored 1 run.

Elba Gold 4 Elba Black 3 - The Elba Gold pulled ahead midway through the game and held on to edge past the Elba Black 4-3. The Black owned a 2-1 lead after one inning, but the Gold slowly pulled ahead and then held on late to claim the win. Justin Mallory and Bradley Wilson both had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead the Gold, while Dylan McCollough added 1 hit and Andrew Head scored 1 run. Devin Jackson had 1 hit and scored 2 runs to lead the Black, while Sandarius Reed scored 1 run.

Elba Gold 11 ZC Red 0 - The Elba Gold pulled ahead early and pulled away late to post an 11-0 win over the Zion Chapel Red. The Gold owned a slim 2-0 lead after three innings, but plated nine runs in their final four at-bats to pull away and post the big win. Bradley Wilson had 3 hits, scored 4 runs and blasted a three-run homer to lead the Gold at the plate, while Justin Mallory added 3 hits and scored 3 runs and Dylan McCollough added 2 hits and scored 2 runs. Jesse Dodd added 2 hits and A.J. Johnson and Rick Johnson both added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Bradley Wilson pitched seven innings to get the win and allowed only three hits, while striking out 16 batters. Ethan Mount, Ryan

Whitley had 1 hit to lead the Gray. **NB Gray 11 ZC Gray 1** - The New Brockton Gray led all the way to defeat the Zion Chapel Gray 11-1. New Brockton jumped out to a 7-0 lead in the third inning and rolled to the big win. Cody Barber had 3 hits and scored 3 runs to lead New Brockton, while Josh McDaniel added 3 hits and scored 2 runs and Garret Stephens and Keith Stephens both added 2 hits and scored 1 run to lead the Black, while Ryan Pope and Aaron Drewery both added 1 hit. ZC Red 10 NB Cardinal 0 - The Zion Chapel Red pulled ahead early and coasted in with a 10-0 win over the New Brockton Cardinal. The Cardinal scored four runs in the second to take a 5-0 lead and rolled to the win. Ethan Mount had 2 hits and scored 2 runs to lead the Red, while Ryan Hobart and Kendall Chappell both added 1 hit and scored 2 runs and Matt Brunson and Shane Barnhill added 1 hit and scored 1 run, apiece. Weston Brown added 1 hit and Ethan Mount got the win on the mound as he pitched five innings and allowed only three hits and struck out five batters. Trey Knight had 1 hit and scored 1 run to lead the Cardinal, while Hayden Smith and Ashton Cuts both added 1 hit.

Brantley 14 NB Gray 4 - Brantley led all the way to post a big 14-4 win over the New Brockton Gray. Brantley owned a slim 2-1 lead after one inning, but led a six-run third inning to take command and rolled to the win. Jared Hall had 3 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Brantley, while Chase Hall, Steven Walker and Zach Ballard all added 2 hits and scored 2 runs; Anthony Golley and Jesse Hargrove both had 1 hit and scored 2 runs; and Chris Walker added 1 hit. Justin Griswold had 1 hit and scored 2 runs to lead the Gray, while Chase Hendrix added 1 hit.

Brantley 14 ZC Gray 4 - Brantley pulled ahead early and pulled away late to defeat the Zion Chapel Gray 14-4. Brantley scored five runs in the third inning to take an 8-2 advantage and rolled to the big win. Anthony Golley had 3 hits and scored 3 runs to lead Brantley, while Steven Walker added 2 hits and scored 3 runs and Jared Hall added 2 hits and scored 2 runs. Dillon Motes added 2 hits and scored 1 run and Chase Hall added 1 hit and scored 2 runs. Torina Uphaw added 2 hits and both Zach Ballard and Chris Walker added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Joe Davis had 3 hits and scored 2 runs to lead the Gray, while Daniel Powell added 1 hit and scored 1 run.

Elba Gold 11 ZC Red 0 - The Elba Gold pulled ahead early and pulled away late to post an 11-0 win over the Zion Chapel Red. The Gold owned a slim 2-0 lead after three innings, but plated nine runs in their final four at-bats to pull away and post the big win. Bradley Wilson had 3 hits, scored 4 runs and blasted a three-run homer to lead the Gold at the plate, while Justin Mallory added 3 hits and scored 3 runs and Dylan McCollough added 2 hits and scored 2 runs. Jesse Dodd added 2 hits and A.J. Johnson and Rick Johnson both added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Bradley Wilson pitched seven innings to get the win and allowed only three hits, while striking out 16 batters. Ethan Mount, Ryan

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Elba Gold 11 ZC Red 0 - The Elba Gold pulled ahead early and pulled away late to post an 11-0 win over the Zion Chapel Red. The Gold owned a slim 2-0 lead after three innings, but plated nine runs in their final four at-bats to pull away and post the big win. Bradley Wilson had 3 hits, scored 4 runs and blasted a three-run homer to lead the Gold at the plate, while Justin Mallory added 3 hits and scored 3 runs and Dylan McCollough added 2 hits and scored 2 runs. Jesse Dodd added 2 hits and A.J. Johnson and Rick Johnson both added 1 hit and scored 1 run. Bradley Wilson pitched seven innings to get the win and allowed only three hits, while striking out 16 batters. Ethan Mount, Ryan

Elba Tiger Alumni Baseball Game
SATURDAY, APRIL 23
HOME-RUN DERBY - 10:00
GAME - 1:00
CALL TODAY TO TAKE PART! 897-2266

SCHOOLS

EHS students compete in math tournament

by Gale Olson

On Friday, April 8, Mrs. Karen Davis, math team sponsor, took 16 math students to Enterprise Ozark Community College to compete in a math tournament against area schools.

Elba competed in three of the four subjects, Algebra I, Geometry and Algebra II. Team member selection was based on averages in his/her studies.

The Algebra I team consisted of five deserving members, Ashley Carpenter, Brittany Phillips, Ashton Rodriguez, Kandace Smith and Tierney Starts.

Christina Bryant, Sydney Brunson, Trey Martin, Justin Pike and Don Rhodes composed the Geometry team and Chase Boutwell, Ashley Camley, Lashonda Cole, Lauren McClung, Gale Olson and

Ashleigh Waddall were the six chosen advanced math students for the Algebra II team.

Each student, at different times in the morning, took a test in their category to the best of their abilities. Each score was evaluated and reviewed the day of the awards ceremony.

The Algebra I and Geometry teams took home second place, and the Algebra II team brought home third place.

Lauren McClung, Ashton Rodriguez and Ashley Carpenter received the Honorable Mention awards.

It was an honor just to be invited to the competition, but placing made it more special to the honored math students.

Ambassadors plan events to raise money for Relay for Life

by Casey Medlock

The EHS Ambassadors have teamed up with the Peoples Bank of Coffee County to help raise money for the Relay for Life organization, and the group is hosting two different events to help raise money for a cure for cancer.

On Saturday, April 30, the EHS Ambassadors will sponsor a 6K Run/Walk for the Relay for



These math team members represented Elba High School at a recent tournament at EOCC.

Life organization. The event will begin at 9 a.m. at Elba High School's Tiger Stadium. Each participant must pay the entry fee of \$15 with all proceeds going to the American Cancer Society. Each participant will receive a free tee shirt and water bottle at the start of the race. While the first person to finish will be awarded \$25, it is to be known that this is not merely a race; anyone who wants to participate can. Running is not necessary.

EHS Ambassadors sponsor Mrs. Lynn Weeks encourages everyone and anyone to join in this 6K Run/Walk. Parents, teachers, students, anyone who is willing to help raise money can join in!

Then, at 6 p.m. Saturday, April 30, the "Miss Relay for Life" pageant will be hosted at the Elba High School Auditorium.

Anyone between the ages of 2 and 18 can participate, and there are seven different age divisions. The entry fee is \$25, and all applications and fees are due by April 22. Late applications will be accepted until the night of practice on April 28, but there will be a \$10 late fee.

There is also an optional "Most Photogenic Category" for each age division for an additional \$10, and this can also be paid up until the night of practice. Contestants interested must submit a photo no larger than 8x10.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and help the EHS Ambassadors raise money for Relay for Life. It is for a good cause, and they can use your help!



Tiger Tales

Editors:
Casey Medlock &
Kayla Kelley

E.H.S. Spotlight

by Duke Carr

This week's Student Spotlight belongs to Kayla Kelley.

This junior at Elba High School is the 17-year-old daughter of Theresa Kelley and Jerry Kelley.

Kayla is very busy at Elba High School. She is actively involved in many clubs and organizations. She is the Reporter/Historian of Sr. Beta, Mu Alpha Theta Secretary, Key Club Treasurer, Journalism Editor of Tiger Tales, an EHS Ambassador, and a member of the Elba High School Marching Tiger Band.

Kayla is also an active member of the Ino Baptist Church youth group and Girl Scout Troop #300.

When she is not twirling as the head majorette in the Elba High School Marching Tiger Band, Kayla enjoys shopping, going to the beach, and spending



Kayla Kelley

ing time with family, friends and her boyfriend.

After graduation, Kayla plans to attend either Troy University or Auburn University and pursue a degree in education with an emphasis on English.

Her friends classify her as dependable, fun and outgoing. However, we classify her as this week's Student Spotlight.

Did You Know?...

Submitted by Casey Medlock

This year, Earth Day is on Friday, April 22. Very few people actually know how Earth Day came out and why it was created.

Actually, the idea for Earth Day evolved over a period of seven years starting in 1962. For several years, it had been troubling Senator Gaylord Nelson, the founder of Earth Day, that the state of our environment was simply a non-issue in the politics of the country. Finally, in November 1962, an idea occurred to him that was virtual

cinch to put the environment into the political "limelight" once and for all. The idea was to persuade President Kennedy to give visibility to this issue by going on a national conservation tour.

After President Kennedy's tour, Senator Nelson still hoped

for some idea that would thrust the environment into the political mainstream. Six years would pass before the idea that became Earth Day occurred to him while on a conservation speaking tour out West in the summer of 1969.

At the time, anti-Vietnam War demonstrations, called "teach-ins," had spread to college campuses all across the nation. Suddenly, the idea occurred to him - why not organize a huge grassroots protest over what was happening to our environment?

The very first Earth Day was held on April 22, 1970. It worked because of the spontaneous response at the grassroots level. Senator Nelson had neither the time nor resources to organize 20 million demonstrations as he pitched five innings and the thousands of schools and local communities that participated. That was the remarkable thing about Earth Day. It organized itself.

Get in the Game...

Elba High School Alumni Baseball Game
Saturday, April 23rd @ the EHS baseball field
Home Run Derby 10 a.m. • Alumni Game 1 p.m.



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A note from the editors...

by Kayla Kelley and Casey Medlock

We hope you have enjoyed our paper thus far. The Elba High School Journalism staff works very hard to bring you breaking stories from the high school and elementary school each week.

Now, we would like to introduce you to the people writing the articles. We will be starting a new section each week, Journalism Member Spotlight.

The journalism staff hopes this will allow you to know the people behind the editorials.

Once again, we hope you enjoy these editorials.

Journalism Member Spotlight

by Ashley Gibson



This week's journalism member spotlight is **Brittney Clark**. She is the 18-year-old daughter of Mrs. Betty Holt.

Brittney is a senior this year and is involved in many activities at Elba High School. She is a member of the journalism staff, a varsity cheerleader, a student council representative, a member of Sr. Beta, and a part of the Marching Tiger Band.

Her hobbies include talking on the phone, going to the movies, and spending time with family and friends.

When asked what she enjoyed most about journalism, Brittney replied, "I enjoy my friends I work with everyday, writing articles, and taking and developing pictures."

After she graduates Brittney plans to attend the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



PICTURE OF THE WEEK (by Kristi Spinks)...Pleaaaaase....I wanna play with the camera!

Kindergarten registration set for May 5th & 6th at Elba Elementary School

On Thursday, May 5, and Friday, May 6, Elba Elementary School will begin registering kindergartners for the upcoming school year.

Enrollment will begin at 8 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. In order to enroll, a child should be 5-years-old on or before September 2, 2005.

Children should bring an

Alabama shot record, birth certificate, and social security card. Each child should attend enrollment with their parents. An informal evaluation will be completed this day on each child.

If you have any questions, please call Elba Elementary School at 897-2814.

Wallace Community College introduces new Dothan Service League Scholarship

The Wallace Community College Foundation is accepting applications for the newly established Dothan Service League Scholarship.

This \$1,000 scholarship will be awarded to a female student for summer term 2005. The award will cover up to \$500 in tuition, fees and/or books, plus \$500 in cash for other educational expenses.

Current and newly enrolled students at the Wallace Campus in Dothan and the WCC Fort Rucker Center. The application deadline is April 29, 2005. For more information, contact the WCC financial aid office at 334-556-2479.

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Public Notices
IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF Elizabeth A. Tyndall, Plaintiff, and Tyrone H. Tyndall, Defendant.
Tyrone H. Tyndall, whose address is unknown must answer Complaint for Divorce and other relief by April 21, 2005, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in Case No. DR 05-13, CIRCUIT COURT OF Coffee County, Alabama 3-31, 4-7, 14, 21p

Public Notices
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY P. KING, Deceased
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
ELBA DIVISION
CASE NO. PC-05-35
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Take notice that Letters Testamentary were granted to Robert R. King and Billy H. King as co-Executors of the Estate of Mary P. King, deceased, on the 7th day of April, 2005, by the Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.
/s/ Robert R. King
Personal Representative
/s/ Billy H. King
Personal Representative
4-14, 21, 28-p

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GREAT 1200 SQUARE FT HOME FOR RETIREMENT. New Patio Home on Sequoia Dr. Off Highland Drive. 3 BR, 2 Bath. For More Information call Mike Russell. RUSSELL CONSTRUCTION 334-897-6540. 10-23-tf

1375 RICHMOND CIRCLE - NEW ROOF in 2005 Newly Remodeled in 2004 - this Executive Ranch Style home has beautiful landscape and curb appeal. Ext. and int. brick finish with 2 fireplaces, 3 BD's BA w/ W/D hook-up. Surken family room, separate living and dining room, and glass sunroom. New and updated kitchen has solid wood cabinets w/ glass doors. Ceiling fans, new fixtures, and french doors through out. Finished basement with separate entry, winter workshop, and washer and dryer. Add. features include detached 2 car garage, brick gazebo w/ kitchen, fenced back yard, storm windows, marble front entry, and new A/C 2004. Excellent buy - this house won't last long. \$139,900 MLS 12352. Call TAYLOR REALTY 735-9500. YVONNE COLLINS

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PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MARRIAGE OF Elizabeth A. Tyndall, Plaintiff, and Tyrone H. Tyndall, Defendant.

Tyrone H. Tyndall, whose address is unknown must answer Complaint for Divorce and other relief by April 21, 2005, or, thereafter, a judgment by default may be rendered against him in Case No. DR 05-13, CIRCUIT COURT OF Coffee County, Alabama 3-31, 4-7, 14, 21p

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MARY P. KING, Deceased
IN THE PROBATE COURT OF COFFEE COUNTY, ALABAMA
ELBA DIVISION
CASE NO. PC-05-35

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Take notice that Letters Testamentary were granted to Robert R. King and Billy H. King as co-Executors of the Estate of Mary P. King, deceased, on the 7th day of April, 2005, by the Judge of Probate for Coffee County, Alabama. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

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COMMUNITY NEWS



Max Bozeman (left), vice president of the Alabama Cattlemen's Association, recently spoke to the Elba Lions Club members during a recent meeting. Bozeman was a guest of Lion Club member Jamie Hudson (right). He spoke of many issues facing Alabama's cattle producers including free trade on beef and identification programs. Bozeman said the president is very much for opening free trade on beef. Like most things today, he said politics play a huge role in the cattle industry and its future.

Farm Service Agency Youth Loan Program teaches responsibility

Baily Anderson is not your average Lee County, Alabama, teenager. The 15-year old is busy showing Angus cows, being named Angus Queen for 2004, serving as the Alabama Junior Cattlemen's Director, studying artificial insemination in animals, and owning a Supreme Grand Reserve Champion.

Baily has been showing Angus cows for three years. She participates in the Farm Service Agency youth loan program. FSA makes loans up to \$5,000 to individual rural youths, between 10 and 20 years old.

Homecoming planned for Sunday, April 24th at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church.

The Mt. Gilead Baptist Church located on Hwy. 87 will celebrate Homecoming, Sunday, April 24. The Harrison Family will sing beginning at 11:00 a.m.

Everyone is welcome.

BRIDAL
Makeover & Kevell Lawford
Shower 3/20/05 Wedding 4/24/05
Kristen Meyberry & Dustin Strasser
Shower 5/1/05 Wedding 5/11/05
Lindsay Taylor & Kevin Dodd
Shower 4/16/05 Wedding 5/21/05
Vaughan Boyd & Grant Lyons
Shower 7/10/05 Wedding 8/6/05

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Dress! Casual! & Sandals!
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KP USED CARS
NOW SELLING CARPORTS as low as \$595.00
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Remember... call us at 897-2117
We really offer in-house financing

CPSC, Sears Roebuck and Co. announce recall of table saw rip fences

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with the firm named below, today announced a voluntary recall of the following consumer product. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed. (To access color photos of the following recalled products, see CPSC's Web site at www.cpsc.gov.)

Name of product: Table Saw's Rip Fence Assembly
Units: About 41,800

Manufacturer of Rip Fence: Rexon Industrial Corp. Ltd., of East Windsor, Conn.

Distributor/Retailer: Sears Roebuck and Co., of Hoffman Estates, Ill.

Hazard: The rip fence - a metal guide that keeps material being sawed from shifting side to side as it passes through the cutting blade - can come loose.

This could result in kickback of the material being sawed and possible injury to the operator.

Incidents/Injuries: Rexon on behalf of Sears has received 230 reports of the rip fence bracket coming loose. No injuries were reported.

Description: The rip fence on these saws is made of silver extruded aluminum, is 31 inches in length, and has an over-locking handle with a black die-cast aluminum head. They were included with Craftsman table saw model number 137.21830.

Sold: Sears stores nationwide from August 2002 through November 2004. The cost of complete table saw is about \$399, and the cost of the rip fence is about \$40.

Manufactured in: Taiwan

Remedy: The firm will provide free replacement parts with instructions to consumers.



Consumer Contact: For additional information, contact the Sears Craftsman Helpline at (800) 843-1682 between 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. ET Monday through Friday.

Unemployment Drops in every Alabama county

4.7 Percent Rate is Lowest Since June 2001

Alabama's unemployment rate in March dropped to 4.7 percent, its lowest level in almost four years, Governor Bob Riley announced on Tuesday. Every county in the state saw a decline in its unemployment rate.

"We're blessed to have a strong and growing economy with thousands of new jobs being created," said Governor Riley. "Businesses are hiring, new companies are choosing to build here and existing industries are expanding across the state. We're on a roll."

Between February and March, the number of Alabamians with jobs rose by 10,800. As a result, the unemployment rate declined from February's 5.2 percent rate. A year ago, in March 2004, the state's unemployment rate was 5.7 percent.

The report shows 102,012 Alabamians were unemployed in March, 10,435 fewer than the number recorded in February and 19,229 fewer than a year ago in March 2004.

The Alabama unemployment rate is well below the national rate for March, which is 5.2 percent.

County	February	March
Baldwin	5.1	4.1
Barbour	6.6	5.5
Bibb	5.3	4.5
Blount	4.5	3.9
Bullock	10.8	8.5
Butler	8.2	6.7
Calhoun	5.7	4.7
Chambers	6.5	5.7
Cherokee	5.6	4.6
Chilton	5.3	4.3
Choctaw	8.5	7.0
Clarke	7.9	6.4
Clay	6.0	4.7
Cleburne	5.7	4.4
Coffee	4.9	4.0
Colbert	7.1	5.9
Conecuh	8.2	6.5
Coosa	7.6	5.1
Covington	6.0	4.8
Crenshaw	7.2	5.7
Callman	5.0	4.1
Dale	5.6	4.7
Dallas	9.7	8.3
DeKalb	6.7	5.8
Elmore	4.8	3.9
Escambia	6.9	4.8

Upcoming Relay for Life fund raising events:

The Elba High School Ambassadors have teamed up with the Peoples Bank of Elba to help raise money for the Relay for Life organization. They are hosting two different events to help raise money for a cure for cancer.

On Saturday, April 30, the ambassadors will sponsor a 6K Run/Walk. The event will begin at 9 a.m. at Elba High School's Tiger Stadium. Each participant must pay the entry fee of \$15, with all proceeds going to the American Cancer Society.

Each participant will receive a free tee shirt and water bottle at the start of the race. While the first person to finish will be awarded \$25, it is to be known that this is not merely a race; anyone who wants to participate

can, and running is not necessary.

Then, at 6 p.m. on April 30, the "Miss Relay for Life" Pageant will be hosted at the Elba High School Auditorium.

Anyone between the ages of 2 and 18 can participate, and there are 7 different age divisions. The entry fee is \$25, and all applications and fees are due by April 22. Late applications will be accepted until the night of practice on April 28, but there will be a \$10 late fee.

There is also an optional "Most Photogenic Category" for each age division for an additional \$10, and this can also be paid up until the night of practice. Contestants interested must submit a photo no larger than an 8x10.

Chairity Auction will highlight Band Day 2005 in Elba Saturday, April 30th

The Elba High School band program will host its annual Band Day Saturday, April 30, in downtown Elba.

It will be a day of fun filled with activities all designed to help raise money for the Elba band program.

Funds raised through band day help make purchases such as instruments, music, and uniforms.

As in the past, many favorite events will be held throughout band day including music from the elementary and high school band programs, other entertain-

WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH OF YOUR CHOICE THIS SUNDAY!

Clark Theatres • Enterprise
11111 Highway 201 • Elba, AL 36025
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APRIL 17TH
Enterprise Shopping Center
I - THE AMITYVILLE HORROR (R) M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAT 2 & 7 & 9:30
II - A LOT LIKE LOVE (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAT 2 & 7 & 9:30
Westgate Center
III - KING'S RANSOM (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAT 2 & 7 & 9:30
IV - FEVER PITCH (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAT 2 & 7 & 9:30
College Cinema - College Plaza
I - THE INTERPRETER (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAT 2 & 7 & 9:30
II - GUESS WHO (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAT 2 & 7 & 9:30
III - SARDARS (PG-13) M-F 7 & 9:30 - SAT 2 & 7 & 9:30
Bargain Matinees Sat. & Sun. 2 p.m. only - all seats - \$4.50
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Hours: Mon. - Sat. 9:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. • Wed. 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.



Layaway \$5 Down 60 - DAYS!

Now Check Us Out at:
www.kidsunlimitedonline.com
Then Come Shop with Us
• Boys & Girls Clothing from Newborn to Size 20!!
• HUGE INVENTORY!!
We're Worth the Drive from Miles Around! Great Prices!!

CITIZENS OF TOMORROW



Braxton, age 6, is the son of Bill and Ronda Robinson of Elba.



Preston, age 15 months, is the son of Jason and Marsha Farris of Elba.



Kymbria, age 3, and Brayley, age 9 weeks, are the daughters of Brett and Chara Binbo of Elba.



Skylar, age 4, and Lexi, age 7 months, are the children of Rick and Jessie Lovvorn of Elba.



Sarah, age 8, and Nate, age 2, are the children of Giles and Angie Bryan of Elba.



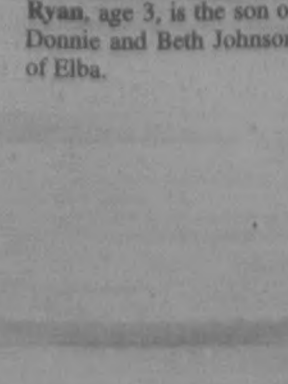
Nathan, age 3, and Ashley, age 1, are the children of Kyle and Lashell Grantham of Elba.



Whit, age 10 months, is the son of Kelly and Kayron Shehee of Elba.



Matthew, age 11 months, is the son of Michael and Brandi Smith of Opp.



Aaron, Brooklyn and Christen, all age 5, are the children of Patrick and Julie Norris of Elba.



Jordan Lawrence, age 1 yr. 8 months, is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Pope of Elba.



Mytia, age 2, is the daughter of Stephen and Tiffany Germany of Elba.



Miranda Melissa, age 13 months, is the Kenneth and Susie Hughes of Elba.



BJ, age 7, and Chanlyn, age 4, are the children of Brian and Marsha Free of Elba.



DaNeasha, age 14, and DaQuan, age 7, are the children of Gayle Jordan of Elba.



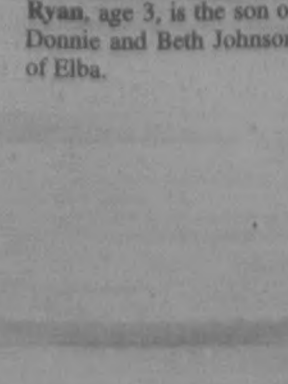
Jauan, age 16, Tierney, age 14, and Kira, age 5, are the children of James and Leslie Starks of Elba.



Ethan, age 3, is the son of Shannon and Samuel Vega of Elba.



Cameron and Claire, both age 2, are the children of Garrett and Rebecca McCollough of Enterprise.



Grace, age 16 months, is the daughter of Dawn Coleman of Enterprise.



Damian, age 2, is the son of Ben and Sherry Stair of Jack.



John Martin, age 1, is the son of Josh and Jill Wilson of Elba.



Matthew, age 5, is the son of Ricky and Becky Morris of Jack.



Isaac, age 3, is the son of Sylvia Watkins of Elba.



Benjamin, age 3, and Haylee, age 8 months, are the children of Benji and Jama Hutchison of Elba.



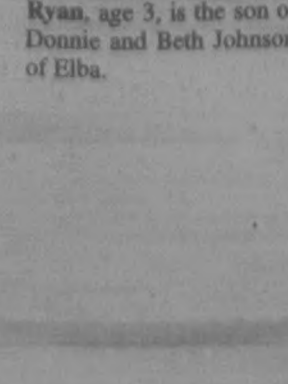
Hunter, age 12, and Holt, age 4, are the sons of Kathy Parker and the late Tom Parker of Elba.



Trinity, age 2, and Quentina, age 6, are the children of Paige Bryan and Tony Daniels of Elba.



Jacob, age 8, and Tanner, age 3, are the sons of Mike and Jeana Smith of Elba.



Lexlie Childs, age 15 months, is the daughter of Christy Wilson and Kevin Childs.



Zachary, age 7, is the son of Jennifer Tidwell of New Brockton.



Zoe Suggs, age 4, is in the guardianship of Lynn McSween of Elba.



Madison, age 4 months, is the daughter of Chris and Michelle Jones of New Brockton.



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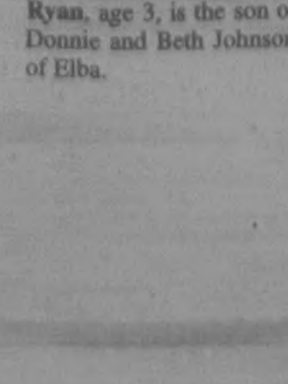
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Small businesses can qualify for no-collateral loans during week-long event

Loans from \$5,000 to \$50,000 are the focus of Troy University Small Business Development Center's five-day start-up and small businesses conference. The event will be from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. May 9–May 13 on the second floor of Adams Hall on the Dothan campus.

Working in conjunction with the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce, Troy University Continuing Education Center and Senior World of Dothan, business owners can apply for no-collateral, Small Business Administration loans. Small business and start-up business owners can apply for up to \$25,000 in unsecured loans, and existing businesses in business for at least two years can apply on-line for unsecured loans of up to \$50,000.

Using the Community Express program, start-up and existing businesses can apply

for unsecured loans up to \$25,000. This program requires the client to receive business counseling from a technical assistance provider (TAP) before approved loans are disbursed. The counseling is free and is provided by the Troy SBD.

Using the SBAExpress program, existing businesses can apply on-line for unsecured loans up to \$50,000. A dedicated computer will be setup so applicants can come in and apply on-line for these loans.

"I'm very excited about these new programs and the participation of our lending partners and resource partners," says Michael Ricks, Alabama SBA Director. "We now can offer applicants tools that can provide access to capital. These new products and technology provide these services to the citizens of Alabama in a timelier

manner."

For more information concerning applying for SBA loans, contact the SBA District Office at (205) 290-7101, visit their website www.sba.gov or contact our local resource partner, Troy University Small Business Development Center at (334) 670-3771.

NOTICE:

Home Grounds & Landscape Workshop will be held at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton, on Wednesday, May 11 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. Topics will include: Container Gardening, Fertilizing Your Lawn, Fire Ant Management and Landscape Design.

If interested in workshop RSVP by May 9 at 894-5596.

(Continued from Page One)

CCC

brother's tractor-trailer to get stuck the day of Easter.

Tritt reported there was an accident one weekend recently in which a 4-wheel drive vehi-

WATER

(Continued from Page One)

those areas not previously offered service by any other water system.

The total budget for this project is \$3.685 million and over 90 miles of water mains will be constructed in the project area.

Lott said Phase II of the expansion project should be completed by June 2006, and he said everyone involved with the Coffee County Water Authority appreciates all the support received by the Coffee County Commission and the residents of Coffee County.

cle had to be pulled out.

"This is not safe," Tritt said. "County Road 537 is a speedway. There have been several people run off the road."

Tritt asked commissioners what was going to be done about the problem.

Commissioner Bernest Brooks said he and county engineer Randy Tindell looked at the road (shoulder), and according to their observation, he said it did not appear that damaging.

He said he does not view the road's condition to be as hazardous as Tritt had described.

While looking at pictures Tritt provided from the day her brother's tractor-trailer, got stuck, commission chairman Doug Dalrymple reminded everyone it was extremely wet Easter weekend because of heavy rains that moved through the area. He said the shoulders

of the roads are not designed to handle such vehicles as a tractor-trailer when wet.

Tindell said the recent work done by the county highway department was to prevent excessive erosion on the road.

He said the soil was just saturated especially in the soft areas the weekend in question.

"I wish we had the benefit of the pictures before the work we did," Tindell said. "We are not sure our work crews do more than they're supposed to do."

He said the work was a routine maintenance procedure the county does on several of its roads a few times per year to prevent erosion.

"I don't know what else we could have done," Tindell said. Tritt insisted her brother could safely drive on the shoulder whether it was raining or not prior to the work the county did.



Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer are shown presenting checks (2) totaling \$125,000 in FEMA funds relating to the Hurricane Ivan Disaster. Pictured from Left to Right: Senator Jimmy Holley; County Administrator Wilton Mobley; EMA Director John Tallas; Representative Terry Spicer; and Asst. EMA Director Larry Walker.

Holley and Spicer announce recreational grant for Enterprise

State Senator Jimmy Holley and State Representative Terry Spicer announced today that the City of Enterprise has been awarded a \$78,385 recreational grant from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs.

The money is to be used for construction of a suspended wood framed boardwalk to access and observe the wetland

area in the upper reaches of the lake in Enterprise Recreational Complex.

"I'd like to thank Mayor Kenneth Boswell, the city council, and the employees of the recreational department for all they do to enhance the recreational opportunities for the citizens of this area," said Spicer.

"This project will enhance the Recreational Complex and provide residents of not only Enterprise but surrounding areas with an improved recreational facility."

"We appreciate the efforts of ADECA Director John Harrison and his staff in obtaining and releasing this grant to the City of Enterprise," said Holley. This new boardwalk will be a welcomed addition to the complex.

Wiregrass natives influence original theatrical production

Wiregrass natives will have a strong influence on Conecuh People, an original theatrical production, when it is performed in Union Springs this April and May.

Margie Benson, a veteran of community theatre, directs the play which stars Ozark residents Kate Garner and Ada Christian.

The original musical score was composed by Jeff Pate, the Music Minister at First Presbyterian Church of Enterprise, who also studied under Benson in high school.

The haunting melodies of Pate's original songs will linger in your mind long after leaving Conecuh People.

The play will be staged at The Red Door Theatre located in

Union Springs, Ala. will offer the opportunity to take a trip back in time and experience life the way it used to be.

Conecuh People, the Experience, centered with Conecuh People, a play that tells the story of a young man's coming of age in rural Alabama during the 1950s, will be presented by the Tourism Council of Bullock County.

Also included in "the experience" will be a quilt exhibit in the town's beautiful churches, an exhibition by local artists, self-guided tours of historical buildings and sites, a catered dinner and overnight accommodations.

The play will be staged at The Red Door Theatre located in

Trinity Welcome Center, a former Episcopal Church built in 1909. An old-fashioned dinner will be prepared and served by ladies of the community at a nearby church in the same tradition of years gone by. Overnight accommodations complete with a Southern breakfast will be available at hunting lodges located near Union Springs.

The event takes place Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 28, 29, and 30, and May 5, 6, and 7, 2005. Prices range from \$10 (play only) - \$105 (depending on the package purchased). For information and tickets, contact conecuhpeople@knology.net or (334) 738-8687.

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The Elba Clipper

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, April 28, 2005

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Freddy Hanchey named chief of police for City of Elba

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council named long time policeman, Lt. Freddy Hanchey as chief of the police department. Hanchey had been serving as acting chief since the sudden resignation last month of former chief, R. W. (Ronnie) Whitworth. Hanchey previously headed the department in the early 1990s. That stint as chief ended with the change of

administrations. He was fired from the department and only reinstated as a lieutenant after a lawsuit and a lengthy, emotional and often heated, court battle.

The vote Monday evening was 3-2, with Councilman Mike McKee absent, due to a family illness. Voting for Hanchey were council members David Banstra, Harold Spicer and Mayor James Grimes. Opposing the action were council mem-

bers Tom Hooks and Ronnie Hammond.

Hammond expressed his respect for Hanchey, but noted the position had been advertised requiring the person selected to live within the Elba City limits, something Hanchey has said he could not do. The new chief lives 2.12 miles outside the Elba city limits, Grimes added that the city council had the authority to waive that requirement.

The mayor explained that at the request of council members he and the city clerk had reinterviewed the top two candidates for the chief's position. He said this had resulted in some additional information, but not enough to cause him to change his recommendation to hire Freddy Hanchey.

In related action the council also followed a recommendation from the mayor and voted a pay increase for all city employees. He said there has not been an across the board pay raise since 2001, in spite of continuously rising living costs.

Police department employees will get a \$1.00 per hour step increase and all other employees will get a 50¢ per hour increase.

The raise is effective with the first pay check in June. Mayor Grimes told council members that an increasing rate of

turnover of employees was costing the city extra money and that many of the workers leaving were getting higher pay for comparable jobs.

The full year cost of this pay raise to the city will be about \$100,000.00.

Grimes said there is a total of 81 hourly employees getting the pay raise, 22 in the police department and a total of 59 in all other departments. However, the mayor noted it would only be in effect for four months during the current fiscal year, which ends on

September 30th. Some of the police salary increases will be offset by permanently eliminating the position of lieutenant being vacated by Hanchey.

The council unanimously agreed to an appraised purchase price of \$67,875 for 23.77 acres of land the city has agreed to purchase from the Alabama Department of Transportation. The land is across from the Elba Work Release Center, where the dog pound was constructed last year. The balance of the property will be used for various city needs and will be available for future industrial development.

The long term contract with Elba Hydroelectric Power Inc., which owns and operates the old Pea River power dam south of town, was amended at the request of the owners. The original contract called for a graduated gross receipts tax on all power generated. The rates

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Freddy Hanchey

Commissioner Ronnie Burns announced that the county recently received a grant check in the amount of \$52,235.20 from the National Geodetic Survey (NGS), a division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Commission supports ZC Senior Center project

by Linda Hodge, Editor

On behalf of the Alabama Department of Revenue, Burns announced that the county recently received a grant check in the amount of \$52,235.20 from the National Geodetic Survey (NGS), a division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

He thanked Congressman Terry Everett and Senators Jeff Sessions and Richard Shelby for helping the county receive these grant funds.

Commissioners also heard from Mr. T. J. Blue during Monday's meeting as she said a recent article in the newspaper led her to come before the group and discuss a possible public transportation program.

Blue said she worked in the field of transportation for much of her career and felt compelled to come speak on transportation.

She mentioned a few things she thinks it will take to make a public transportation program work in Coffee County. She said the county needs to know schedules, bus routes and needs to have fares established.

Blue said matching funds can be generated from fares and commercial advertising.

County engineer Randy Tindell told commissioners that the investigation is continuing to find the person(s) responsible for burning a one-lane bridge on County Road 365 in early January.

He said his department has been looking at alternatives for replacing the bridge, and he thinks they have located some

(NOAA), for implementing a Height Modernization Program in Alabama.

Burns said the funds will be applied to the cost of the digital orthophotography system. He said the remaining cost of this purchase can be paid from the county's appraisal and mapping budget.

"Please keep in mind that these funds are subject to audit to ensure they are being used as Congress intended," Burns added.

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Please See CCC, Page 4

Concerned citizens support safety improvements for intersection

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Concern spread through the Coffee County community near the intersection of Alabama Highway 134 and County roads 545 and 603 last week after a two-vehicle car accident claimed the life of one county resident and injured two others.

According to Alabama State Troopers, a two-vehicle accident occurred at the intersection around 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 19, when a vehicle driven by Billy Samuel Pulliam, age 18, of Elba collided with a vehicle driven by Margie Reeves Windham, age 75, of Elba.

Pulliam was seriously injured; however, a passenger in Windham's vehicle was fatally injured.

Evelyn Purvis, age 78, of New Brockton, died as a result of injuries she sustained from the accident.

As word of the accident spread, residents living near the intersection were filled with concern regarding the intersection they have long considered to be extremely dangerous.

Margie Harrison, a resident of County Road 603, said she and her husband, James, have lived next to the intersection for 32 years and they have seen plenty of accidents and deaths. This even more near accidents.

This latest tragedy led Harrison to try and do something to keep others from suffering like those affected by last week's accident.

Harrison and other concerned citizens of the community decided to begin a petition asking local and state officials to help make the intersection of Hwy. 134 and County roads 545 and 603 a safer place to travel.

The petition reads as follows: The following citizens of Alabama do hereby petition Governor Bob Riley and all

elected state and county officials in reference to the intersection of State Highway 134, County Road 603, and County Road 545 (located in Coffee County six miles west of Enterprise) to have a caution light erected as well as caution signs, speed bumps

and much needed road work.

request requires immediate attention due to the numerous traffic fatalities at this extremely dangerous intersection. The most recent fatality occurred on 4-19-05. This intersection is hard to see from all four angles whether you are coming up to the intersection or trying to get out onto State Highway 134 from one of the county roads. It is almost impossible to see oncoming traffic while trying to

turn onto the state highway and the stop signs on the county roads are not noticeable until you have already approached them. There have been numerous accidents and several fatalities at this intersection. The following people who have signed this petition ask that immediate action be taken to help insure

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Commission tables motion regarding dangerous intersection

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the Coffee County Commission meeting Monday, April 25, Commissioner Robert Stephens addressed a concern regarding the intersection of Alabama Highway 134, County Road 545 and County Road 603.

Stephens said a serious accident occurred at the intersection last week with one person being killed and another seriously injured.

"It's a dangerous place," he said.

Stephens said he and other officials have been on the phone with state officials since last Wednesday asking for help with the intersection. He said Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer also have asked state officials to look at the problem.

"I realize it's a state road, but these are residents of Coffee County," Stephens said. "My thoughts are how much is a person's life worth."

He asked his fellow commissioners to entertain a resolution offering full support to con-

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More than 50 concerned citizens and residents gathered next to the intersection of Alabama Highway 134 and County Roads 545 and 603 Monday evening, April 25, to show their support for safety improvements at the intersection. The concerned citizens decided to take action and start a petition asking local and state officials to make various safety improvements at the intersection after another county resident was killed last week in a traffic accident. The group strongly feels it is time to take action. Many residents said they hope the evidence of their support for the safety changes will get the attention of officials and something will soon be done to help.

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Area Happenings

THE ELBA HIGH SCHOOL AMBASSADORS will host two events Saturday, April 30, to help raise money for the upcoming Relay for Life event. Saturday morning, the Ambassadors will sponsor a 6K Run/Walk at 9 a.m. at Elba High's Tiger Stadium. Saturday evening, the group will host the "Miss Relay for Life" pageant at 6 p.m. at the Elba High School auditorium.

ELBA BAND DAY 2005 will be Saturday, April 30, from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. on the square in Elba.

THE ELBA MINISTERS' JUBILEE invites everyone to observe the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 5, at 12 Noon at the Elba Courthouse. People, Ministers from the Alliance will offer prayers for the nation, state, youth, city, churches and military. City and county leaders will also be present. This year's theme is "God filled the Green on This" and the scripture text is Hebrews 4:3.

A HOME GROUNDS & LANDSCAPE WORKSHOP will be held at the Coffee County Farm Center in New Brockton on Wednesday, May 11, from 9 a.m. - 12 noon. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. If interested in workshop RSVP by Monday, May 9, at 334-894-5596.

NEWS BRIEF

The Elba Police Department currently is investigating the theft of seven control air conditioning units stolen from the area of the old school now used by the Elba High School.

The theft was reported Monday, April 18, which means it occurred sometime between Saturday evening, April 16, and Monday morning, April 18.

Anyone with information is encouraged to call the Elba Police Department at 897-2625.

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